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Jos. Do...
THE
Surgeon
Gen.
U.S.

GENERAL CHARACTER,

PRESENT AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

Of the People of Ohio.

AN ADDRESS

DELIVERED AT THE UNITED STATES' COURT HOUSE,

DURING THE TERM

OF THE UNITED STATES' CIRCUIT COURT,

IN COLUMBUS, OHIO, DECEMBER, 1826.

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BY CALEB ATWATER,

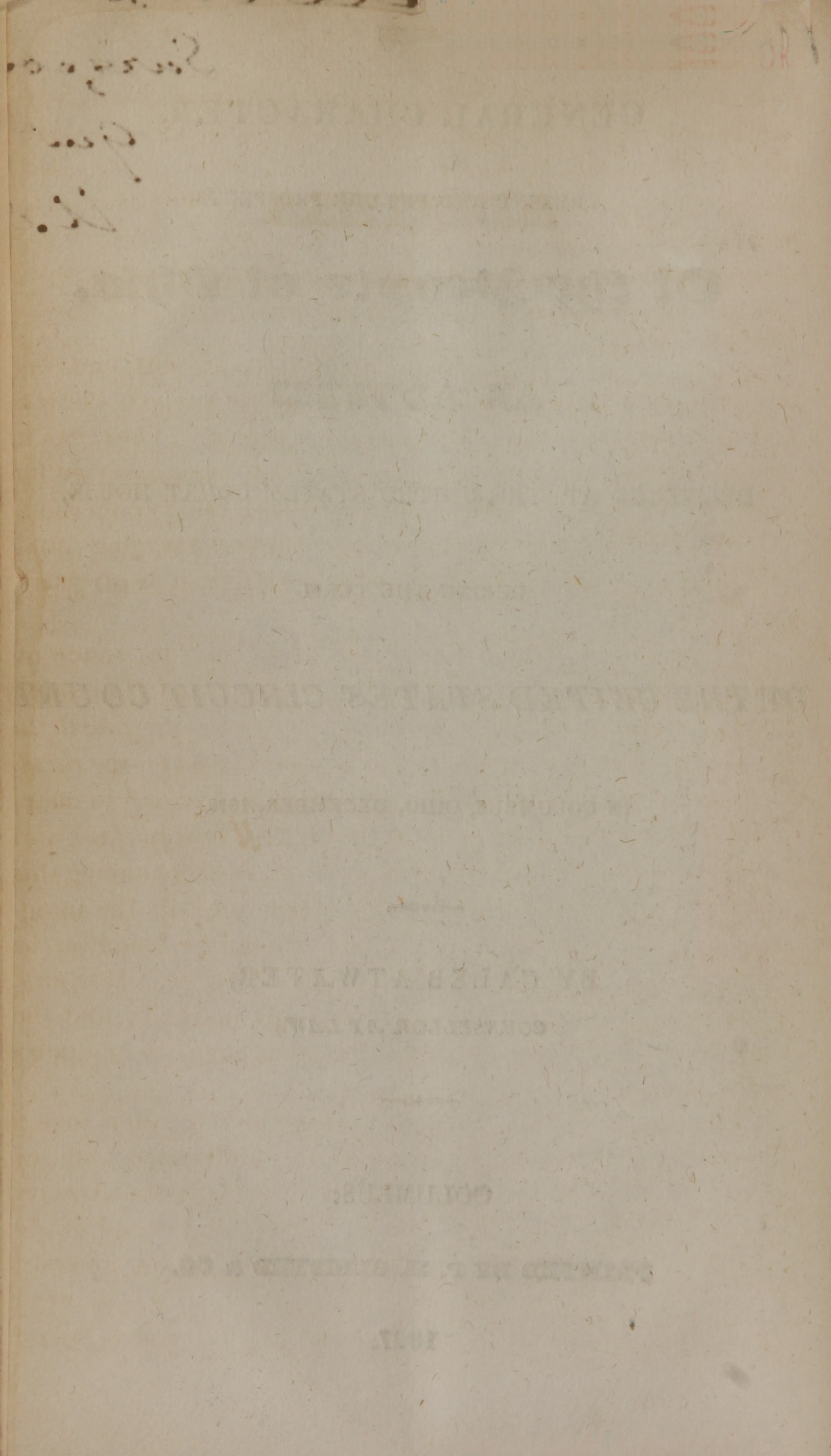
COUNSELLOR AT LAW.

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COLUMBUS:

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1827.



ADDRESS.



FELLOW-CITIZENS:

The general character, present and future prospects of the people of Ohio, is the subject chosen for our meditations and reflections this evening. That, "as a people, we have no general character," has been asserted by nearly every author who has published any thing concerning us. Without stopping to inquire whether this standing libel on us, has proceeded from ignorance, or malice, it is my business to repel it.

A community, which has raised itself, in the space of about thirty years, from nothing, to a great and flourishing State, containing nearly a million of freemen—the *fourth* in the Union, in point of numbers and political power—the *third*, in white population and military strength, and *second* to none, in many respects, has no general character. This learned and enlightened audience, will agree with me, in pronouncing this assertion, a libel on a whole people, deserving only the indignation of all virtuous men. There cannot be found on the whole globe, a community occupying so large a territory, whose general character is more strongly marked; and the time is arrived, when our true character ought to be known to the world.

The people of this State, are remarkable for their love of liberty, their hatred of slavery and all intolerance and persecution. He who knows nothing of these traits of character knows nothing of us. The love of liberty and dread of domestic slavery, are seen in our opposition to an amended Constitution. They are seen in every election—in every newspaper published in the state—in all our courts of jus

tice—in our legislative halls—in all places, public and private—they sit on every brow and dwell in every heart in Ohio. It was this love of liberty, this hatred of domestic slavery, which prompted the first settlers of Ohio, to explore this then vast wilderness and to locate themselves where slavery was never to pollute the land—where freedom of conscience, of the press, and of speech, were to be held forever sacred. The General Government by its ordinance of 1787, had marked out the great outlines of liberty, and such persons, and such only as were ardently attached to them, emigrated hither, while such as preferred to dwell amidst domestic slavery, turned their footsteps towards other states and territories, more congenial to their feelings and their principles. Hence it is, that although this State was first settled by persons from almost every one of the old thirteen States, and from every European State, yet they were all of them haters of domestic slavery, and devotees of liberty.—These feelings have leavened the whole mass of our population; “they have grown with our growth and strengthened with our strength.” They filled our armies with soldiers in the late war, so gallantly commanded by MEIGS and HARRISON. For these principles they fought, bled, and conquered on the Thames, and on Lake Erie. Ohio militia raised no constitutional scruples about crossing the boundary line of our republic; they complained not of hardships, nor of their coarse fare; nor did they fear to meet danger and death in the field of battle. The dead rest in honor, the wounded bled for their country, and are entitled to her gratitude.

Our hatred of persecution, is as strong as our love of liberty is ardent. This is sometimes seen in our elections, always indeed, when a candidate for office, is treated with much harshness. Many a candidate for a seat in our legislature, has owed his success more to the persecution set on foot by his enemies, than to his own intrinsic merits and qualifications. No allusion to any one case, is intended, because such instances are too frequent to need a special notice. It is hardly

necessary for me to add, that these traits of our character are plainly discernable in every clause of our State Constitution, and in all our laws made under it. They meet us in every part of both, and the same spirit breathes throughout our happy commonwealth. Where is the slanderer of this great, free, and virtuous people, who will come forward before this audience, composed as it is of the learning, taste, fashion, elegance and wisdom of the State, in miniature, and deny us to possess the traits of character, I have noticed? They are impressed, indelibly impressed, upon our constitution of government, upon our laws, our customs, manners and habits, and upon every page of our history.

But I proceed to state that the people of Ohio are a very intelligent and well informed community. I have visited more than one half of the states in this Union, and have actually resided in four of them, and I can truly say, that I found intelligence more generally diffused among the great mass of our people, than I have elsewhere. It is not uncommon for us to have, even in a small town, persons well informed and very well educated, from almost every one of the old American States, and from almost every country of Europe.

Living as these persons do, in constant habits of friendly intercourse, and interchanging their ideas on every topic of profitable conversation, there is of course, among them, more geographical knowledge of our own country and of Europe, than can be found in the country towns of the old thirteen States. Among our physicians and lawyers, their knowledge is more various in their several professions, than is common in the older States. The diseases prevalent in the several States, and in different climates, together with the most approved remedies, and the different methods of using them, are well known to our physicians. The laws of the several States, the rules of practice in their courts, and their State Constitutions are perfectly familiar to our gentlemen of the bar. Not a few of our professional men, belong to the first families in the old States, supposing that in a new state,

rapidly rising into notice, every well bred and well educated young man, can easily raise himself into wealth and political importance, they have crowded into Ohio to make their fortunes! How many such persons do we every day see around us, struggling to *live* here, instead of enjoying their ease, flourishing in honor and affluence among their friends beyond the mountains! No father's influence in the East, builds up his son in the West.

All is activity here, personal reputation is all, and every man stands upon his own individual merit. Nearly all our professional men, have received the benefits of a public education in the East; and not a few of them would have succeeded far better in the very town where they were born! All professions are crowded to overflowing and every avenue to wealth and political importance, is literally barracadoed by impatient, jostling aspirants. The lawyer is eagerly looking to Congress Hall, as he passes over that stepping stone, the State Legislature; the physician is aiming at a seat in a professor's chair, and the divine is endeavoring to ascend to the desk of some wealthy religious society.

I have heard as learned, as ingenious, as able and as eloquent pleadings in county court-houses in Ohio, as I ever heard in the city of New York. Nor is this uncommon. It is true that we do not emblazon every such effort, (because it occurs every day here,) in the newspapers, as is done in the Atlantic cities; but that our bar is as respectable for talents, natural and acquired, as that of any other State, I do not, and cannot doubt. On a constitutional question, we have produced the ablest and best writer in the Union; and for real genuine eloquence, for clear, legal, logical and conclusive reasoning, I could name forty gentlemen, now within the sound of my voice or in the immediate vicinity, who are unrivalled in this nation. Delicacy, and the profound attention which prevail throughout this spacious hall, alone restrain me from mentioning them by their respective names. Such being the qualifications of our gentlemen of the bar, it is natural to con-

clude that our judges are able jurists; and they are so, and I have heard as able, as learned and as eloquent opinions delivered from the bench, by President Judges, and by Judges of our Supreme Court, as were ever delivered by any judge, in any court, in any age or country in the world. Clear, comprehensive, legal, fraught with sound morality, dictated by a strict regard to the interests of this great and growing community, these opinions abound with liberal ideas and patriotic sentiments. If we have not the curled wigs and the gowns at the bar and on the bench, as in Westminster Hall, we have no sycophants bending before those in power, but in their stead, a lofty independence, liberal ideas of government, pure patriotism and strict virtue. If the lawyer bows before our judges, and he does so as he rises to address them, it is with heartfelt deference, and profound respect for their great learning, great personal worth, and because, they represent the majesty of the laws. It is manly to do so, and a contrary course of conduct, toward such men, in such a place, would degrade the offender beneath the dignity of an Ohio gentleman and lawyer. Our judges easily keep order in court by their own strict observance of the rules of decorum and good breeding. Their own dignified deportment and politeness towards all around them, fill every spectator with awe and respect, and calls to order, are neither heard nor needed in our courts. I doubt whether any state in the Union can boast of better Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. Yet, "as a people we have no general character"!!!!

Our clergymen, of different religious sects of christians too, are unlike gentlemen of their profession, in many parts of the old states. I have seen, in Ohio, clergymen of several sects of christians, uniting together in performing acts of public worship, with the same apparent harmony, as if they all belonged to one denomination. Presbyterians, methodists, anabaptists all united in performing religious worship! A sight, which to behold, might put to shame and hush into silence, religious zealots in the old States, where it sometimes happens, that cler-

gymen of the *same religious sect*, will not worship together in peace and harmony. It is by no means, an uncommon occurrence in this state, where the community is not sufficiently numerous to support more than one divine, for a whole people, composed of several religious sects, to unite in the support of one minister of some one of the several sects of christians, to which the community formerly, in the old States belonged. Such instances have often met my own observation, where a people have thus united in the utmost harmony, for years together, in public worship. I mention this circumstance to illustrate more fully, the liberality and tolerant spirit of Ohio. Not a few of our clergymen are highly endowed with talents and learning, and I have often been delighted with their eloquence. Learned, pious, dignified, grave, affable, polite and friendly, they appear to me to copy in a good degree the graces and manners of their Divine Master. In the pulpit they are eloquent, out of it, their daily conduct and conversation, constantly remind us of our duty and their own dignity. To their exertions we are greatly indebted, for the high moral respectability of the people of this state. Wherever our clergymen go, they diffuse around them good breeding, learning, science and correct taste, as well as all the christian graces. Highly useful as they are and have been, they confer honor on the State and a grateful posterity will do them justice. To posterity then, and their Divine Master, we commit them, in the full assurance that ample rewards are laid up in store for them and their valuable labors.

Family influence carries every thing before it in many of the old States, but real personal worth is the only recommendation in this. Standing upon his own merits, and upon the resources of his own mind, every man feels the necessity of using his utmost exertions, either to raise or sustain his pretensions to pre-eminence, before the people. No borrowed lustre can shine one moment in Ohio. Intelligence, and competition and rivalry would instantly cloud his feeble rays. I will not say, that we have as much literature as Boston, as

much science as New Haven, Philadelphia and many particular spots I could name in the old States, but I will say, and do say, that for general intelligence diffused among the great mass of the people, Ohio acknowledges no superior in the East. From the newness of the country, we have not, as yet, such libraries established here, as they have there; and our legislature have not thought proper to endow our colleges, so as to enable them, successfully to compete with their rivals in the trans-Alleghenian States. Ohio has not yet produced a **SILLIMAN** in science, nor a **DE WITT CLINTON**, in politics, yet several gentlemen have, by their scientific labors, done honor to the State, at home and abroad; and our Canal Commissioners are, with sure and steady pace, treading in the footsteps of 'THE IMMORTAL FATHER OF INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.'

But Ohio, not only possesses a great fund of general intelligence, diffused among the great mass of her population, but there are an energy, an enterprising spirit, and an activity, seen and felt among her citizens, not found among the people in many of her older sisters of this confederacy. The census conclusively shows, that there are comparatively few adults and still fewer aged persons among us. From the same undoubted source of information we learn, that we have an excess of males over the females, and that in proportion to the persons of mature age, we have a great number of children and youths. In most instances those who have emigrated to this State, were either young men seeking their fortunes, or young married people with large and increasing families. Such being the facts, it is natural among such a people to expect to find energy, activity and enterprise, combined in one living, moving, bustling mass, felling the forests, opening roads, erecting mills, manufactories, and bridges, and building up cities, towns and villages. Such are the facts in the case. On every side, we behold life, vigor, industry, activity and bustle—we hear the sounds of the axe, the saw, the hammer, the loom, all, all in motion. Athletic, vigorous and young, situated far inland, at a great distance from a

market, many of our citizens every year from necessity, are lead far from home, and a journey of five hundred or a thousand miles, is esteemed even less by them, than one of one hundred miles, would be to a man, in one of the old States, who never wandered forty miles from the spot where he was born. Here, be the weather what it may, when a man's business calls him from home, he starts on his journey, wades through roads, impassable to an eastern man, swims the streams and heeds neither rain, snow nor hail, but moves onward to the end of his journey.

Every river in the West is vexed with our oars, and every lake is whitened with our sails. The majesty of the forest is bowing before us, and delightful villages, towns and cities rear their tall and glittering spires in the forest's stead. Indeed our mild climate, our fertile soil, our numerous rivers, without falls in them, moving majestically along, as noiseless almost, as the foot of time; with the broad and beautiful Ohio washing our whole southern border, and Lake Erie, with expansive and unruffled surface on the north, with impulse almost resistless, our citizens are invited to industry, activity, enterprise and wealth. To which inducements will soon be added, within our own territory, three hundred and seventy-five miles of navigable canals. How many of the older American communities, lie in a torpid state, as to internal improvements—"a lion stands in their way"—every mole-hill is to them a mountain, but Ohio well knows, that for nearly one million of freemen to dig a ditch forty feet wide, four deep, three hundred and seventy-five miles long, is comparatively nothing. The spirit of improvement is abroad in the world; it has ascended every summit's height, it has descended into the bowels of the earth, and brought to light sources of comfort, happiness, wealth and power. Passing down the stream of time, Ohio will do her duty to herself now, and to her posterity for ages yet to come. She is the New York of the West.

Other traits, in our general character, may be mentioned which go to disprove the truth of the standing libel to which

this discourse is intended as an answer. Knowing these traits, as I most assuredly do, emboldens me to say, that if the injurious imputation fell from an angels tongue, it would be an approbrious slander, on a people deserving the highest respect, if not the highest applause of all virtuous and enlightened men. In Ohio, morality, an absence of atrocious crimes, and a strict attention to the duties enjoined by the mild religion of the gospel, distinguish us from the people of many other communities. It is not an uncommon occurrence, at the East, for our character to be assailed as "a ferocious people"! Is there a people on the globe more free from acts of violence and blood shed? Where among so large a population, do we find fewer crimes of every grade? When or where, has a traveller in this state, been robbed or murdered? or where has a peaceable traveller, been treated rudely or with unkindness, in this state? Murders have been committed in this state, it is true, but they have been perpetrated, in almost every instance, by citizens of other states, or by mere transient persons passing through our territory.

Suicides are almost unknown among us. Drunkenness, a vice, common in many parts of the Union, among, not only labouring people, but infecting even the higher classes of society, is so uncommon here, that Gov. CLINTON, after seeing, as he did, while he was Ohio's guest, a large proportion of our citizens, declared to our honor and his own surprise, in all his Tour, he never saw, even one intoxicated person, in Ohio! Yet the standing libel on us, says "we have no general character"!

According to our numbers, we have a greater proportion of professors of religion, than any other state. These belong to the presbyterians, the methodists, the episcopalians, and other religious sects, and almost every man belongs to some one of them. Whether this circumstance, will account for another trait in our character, I pretend not to say; but this state, for many years past, has been remarkably free from factious violence, mobs, riots, and tumults, which have so often

shaken other less moral communities to their centres. It was consoling to every well wisher of Ohio, on a late occasion* when a vast majority of our citizens, smarting as they did under a most mortifying disappointment, yet were seen peaceably pursuing their usual occupations as if nothing disagreeable had happened! To see those who were triumphant, assuming to themselves no airs of triumph, and those who were so deeply disappointed, greeting with friendship those who were their late opponents, all submitting to the event and uniting like a band of brothers to promote the interest, the happiness, the grandeur and glory of the state was deeply affecting to every friend of Ohio, her institutions and lasting prosperity.

Another circumstance shall be mentioned, and I have done with this branch of my subject. In this state, we have no rule of court etiquette, which requires, the introduction of a citizen, by a head of a department, to our chief magistrate, before any business can be transacted with him!!! The humblest citizen in Ohio, can approach his governor, or any head of a department, without any introduction, or even a card, containing his address and place of residence! He will be received with civility, treated with politeness, his request will be listened to with attention, and if a proper one, granted with promptness; and himself be dismissed, with a smile, coming from a heart of friendship, without guile. If grandeur has found, in our national capitol and in Europe, a splendid palace and a lofty dome for its abode, its dwelling place in Ohio is in the heart of its possessor. Our grandeur is a moral one, and the humblest citizen can approach it, without impediment when ever he wishes to do so. Such is the republican simplicity of the rulers of the fourth state in the Union.

I am sensible, that only a few of the traits, which constitute our general character, have been noticed, but these are the most strongly, distinctly marked, and stand in the boldest relief. They show us a people, highly favored by Heaven,

* The late Presidential Election.

and one, possessing within their territory, every thing calculated to make them great, prosperous and happy. Although recently settled here, they have only to pursue the path already marked out for them by themselves, to be the very FIRST STATE IN THIS UNION, IN WEALTH, POPULATION AND POLITICAL POWER. Ohio aspires to the first place in the Union.

Such is our general character and such are our future prospects. Colleges, Academies and Common Schools have been founded, which need the fostering care of a parental government, and may a leprosy smite every political Uzziah, who shall dare, attempt to stop the influence of their march through our land. It is by them that our youth are prepared to follow the examples of their parents; it is by them, that intelligence and learning and morality are diffused throughout our territory. Our children are the property of the state, and every child, whatever may be the condition of his parents, however exalted, or however humble, by a suitable education ought to be prepared to perform his duty to himself, his neighbor, his country and his God.

“Full many a gem of purest ray serene,

“The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear,

“Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,

“And waste its sweetness on the desert air.”

Shall no artist's hand be employed to polish these rich gems? and shall not the field of mental cultivation, be so far extended, as to enclose within its limits, those beautiful wild flowers of genius now wasting their delicious fragrance on the desert air? Forbid such neglect ye friends of learning, morality and genuine liberty. Forbid it, patriotism and virtue. Forbid it, ye legislators of Ohio, now listening to the sound of my voice.

There is a most undue prejudice in low minds, against our higher seminaries of learning. Persons of a certain grade of character, suppose, or pretend to suppose that our colleges are

intended merely for the sons of the rich, the great and the powerful, and that, by promoting the interest of these schools, they are laying the foundation for a future aristocracy among us! Never was an opinion advanced wider of the real truth, nor one that had, a more slender foundation for its basis. Were our colleges as well endowed, as those at the eastward, poor men's sons would be educated in them, as well as the sons of wealthy citizens. The former, possessing abilities equal to those of the latter, were they as well educated, necessity would impel them to industry, to activity and to enterprise, and they would rise into the highest places, under the government. Besides, as long as we have no law of primogeniture, there never can be a permanent aristocracy in Ohio. The absence of such a law, regulating descents, would make England herself, a republic. Instead of fearing the influence of our colleges, every poor man may safely look up to them, as the great safeguards of his liberties. It is to these we are to look for the instructors of our academies and common schools; for our statesmen, our physicians and divines. They may be viewed in a threefold aspect; they are our fortresses, and our lofty battlements, in which are placed the defenders of our liberties, against the hosts of aristocracy and despotism.—They are our nurseries of science; the pure fountains whose streams irrigate and fertilize our fields of literature, morality and liberty. That legislator who does not afford our colleges all the aid in his power to furnish, is but a poor patriot, and *no statesman*. May he who forgets to vote for liberal appropriations to these schools, be also forgotten himself, on the day of election, by the PEOPLE.

Why is it that New England exerts so powerful an influence in this nation? Her soil is comparatively sterile, her climate is cold, and her population occupying six states, do not much outnumber that of the single State of New York. Her productions of the soil hardly suffice for her own consumption, and yet she is felt in our national councils, in not a few of our state governments, in all our schools, in all our periodical

publications, in our churches and our temples of justice. It cannot be from any partiality in her favor, because there is a prejudice against her, in all the middle, western and southern States. Why is it, I ask you, that her influence is so great in this Union, and I might add throughout the world? It is because she early laid a substantial and durable foundation for schools and seminaries of learning, in which her sons might be prepared for the business of life. They are found at the HEAD OF OUR CIVIL GOVERNMENT; they have often led our armies to battle and to victory; they command in our navy; they represent us at foreign courts; they are presidents of our colleges, principals of our academies and teachers of our schools. They preside in our temples of justice and of public worship, they plead our causes in courts, they are our physicians, who are ministers of science wherever they go. Every sea is vexed by them, in quest of commerce and of wealth, and every country is explored by them in search of knowledge and of riches. When our rights are invaded on the ocean, they bear the nation's vengeance, in a voice of thunder, over the mighty deep. Perry, Porter and M'Donough, have filled the world with Columbia's fame and their own glory. By what wonder-working power, by what mighty means, have this people effected all these things? I repeat it, all proceeds from the strict attention they bestow on the education of their children.—Those who landed on Plymouth rock in 1620, and those who settled a few years afterwards, at Providence, New Haven, and Hartford, were well bred and well educated, and their *first care*, was to place the education of their children on a durable foundation. Education, in the language of one of her favorite sons,* in their view of the subject, does not consist solely in scholastic learning, and in a knowledge of the arts and sciences; no, their children are taught to govern their passions, to be industrious, temperate, economical; to fear God and keep his commandments; to love their neighbor, to

* Mr Webster, Member of Congress.

love their country, to love liberty, and to exert every power of their bodies and every faculty of their souls, in order to excel in their trade, occupation, profession or business. Such is a brief outline of a New England education. Has this State any thing to lose by copying after the sons of the pilgrims in this respect? Have we nothing to gain by it?

New England, much slandered land of my fathers! your sons have been accused of wishing to dissolve this Union—of being cheats and knaves—of hypocrisy in religion—of being monarchists, and of secretly harboring a wish, to return to your old allegiance to the British monarch! To all these slanders, you have answered, by ardent attachment to the Union—by honesty in your dealings—by being more republican, in your manners and customs and habits, than any other people in the nation—by shedding your blood freely in every battle between us and England, either on the land or on the waters.

Thus continue to answer your slanderers, by your actions at home, abroad, in the field, in the cabinet, on the land and on the waves. Your soil, though not fertile, your climate though cold, your sea though bounded by a high, precipitous and rocky shore; though your rivers are rapid, your territory though hilly and even mountainous; though your productions of the soil are few in number, and in a pecuniary point of view, not very valuable, yet your industry, temperance, economy and enterprize; your moral habits and your attention to the education of your children, will enable you to preserve your liberties and your republican institutions free from pollution, until many other parts of this Union, are melted down into slavery and dissolved in ruin; for when the goddess of liberty, takes her flight to Heaven from these states, her last footsteps, tinged deeply with

New-England's blood, shall every where be seen, on her thousand hills. Land of my fathers! farewell, for I shall see you no more forever.

One consideration, at least, will have its due weight with us who are the first settlers and founders of this state; which is, THAT OUR EXAMPLE WILL EXTEND ITS INFLUENCE, TO OUR POSTERITY OF REMOTE AGES. The example of the first settlers of New England, has already been referred to, and if we look with an observant eye, to the other states, our proposition will be still further illustrated.

The Hollanders first settled New York, and their descendants, like their ancestors are fond of canals and commerce. They have indeed made New York, what Holland was, the land of canals, of manufactures, of wealth and commercial enterprise. Governed by a descendant of the Grand Pensioner, De Witt, whose daring mind and gigantic talents have made him immortal; like his ancestor he is sometimes surrounded by an infuriated mob,* because he has dared to be greatly good, and stamp the image of his great mind, upon the age in which he lives, so plainly, so forcibly, that the malice of man, can never erase the indelible impression.

Who that traverses Pennsylvania, does not see the image of William Penn, impressed upon every thing around him? Every field is well tilled, surrounded with a good fence, without a weed, a bush, or a brier in it; the house, the barn, the crib, of stone, of brick, or of wood, according to the ability of the owner, are plain, convenient, substantial and neat. The farmer and his family, dressed plainly, comfortably and neatly, are sedate, civil, intelligent, obliging, polite and friendly. They are industrious, active, economical and enterprising, and whether Quakers or not, you see much of the spirit of Penn, of Franklin and of Rush, wherever you go.

Who that visits Philadelphia, sees not, feels not, at every step, the effects produced by the example of her earliest in-

* An allusion to a late, scandalous transaction.

habitants? The societies and libraries founded by Franklin and his associates, have produced a rich harvest of knowledge, widely diffused in and around, "*The city of brotherly love.*" If Boston, like her first settlers, is celebrated for her literature, Philadelphia excels in the arts and in the natural and exact sciences. Penn, and Logan, and Godfrey, and Franklin, and Rittenhouse, and Rush set the example, and her Pattersons, her Bartons, her Meases, her Wistars, her Chapmans, her M'Clures, her Says, her Walshes, her Hares and thousands of others have followed it.

Without noise and without ostentation, Pennsylv'nia, like her statesmen are now doing wonders for her internal improvement. May all the success they ever wish to obtain, crown their laudable endeavors.

In Virginia, east of the Blue ridge, we find every where, the old English manners, derived from the first settlers of "the ancient dominion;" hospitality to strangers, a nice sense of honor, affability, politeness, gravity of manners, gentlemanly deportment, a freedom from noisy mirth, The Virginians are well informed, and strongly attached to their ancient customs, and in all respects, they are republicans of the old school, like George Washington, Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson. It is scarcely necessary for me to add, that the states just mentioned, are the sources from whence Ohio has derived nearly her whole population. Under this head of our discourse, these remarks could easily be extended to a good sized volume, but we forbear, for the time, and the patience of this enlightened, polite and attentive audience, would be exhausted, were we to tell of the character, manners, habits, laws and customs, prevalent in the Carolinas, in Louisiana and in TENNESSEE, WHERE VALOR, AND PATRIOTISM, AND JACKSON ARE AT HOME. In all the states, which have been settled thirty years or more, the first settlers have impressed their own characters, on their descendants and on their institutions. The same effects here, will be, now are, produced by the same causes. Thus far

Ohio has prospered and her statesmen deserve, and will assuredly receive the benedictions of posterity. The present time presents a long list of wise, prudent and virtuous rulers, but the actual presence of many of them, and a regard to delicacy prevent the mention of their honored names. To posterity, and to the pen of the impartial biographer we consign them, to which they may look for ample rewards, for their benevolent intentions, their wise and prudent forecast, and their laborious exertions to improve their own condition, and that of their posterity. They have actually laid the foundation of lasting prosperity, and are erecting on it, an edifice, more lasting than monuments of marble, more durable than adamant. A feeble sound of opposition to our labors is heard, and the spirits of our fathers, lean from the skies, to behold the issue of the conflict. The voice of an unborn posterity cries in our ears;

“On, on, to the end of your labors. Foster literature, and the natural and exact sciences; enact wise, mild and wholesome laws; be grateful to your old, faithful and well tried public servants. Be hospitable to strangers and always treat travellers, from all countries, with attention and civility. Reward merit of every kind; respect those in authority, for they represent the majesty of the people. Live in peace and harmony among yourselves, and always abstain from factious violence; and whatever differences of opinion you happen to entertain as to men, let all parties unite in measures calculated to promote the prosperity, the lasting happiness of the people, the grandeur and glory of Ohio. You have a soil unsurpassed in fertility, a climate mild and salubrious, and your territory contains within its bosom, all the mineral wealth you will need forever. Your territory is a field of natural wealth, and though it is a very extensive one, which, as yet, is almost unexplored by the devotees of natural science, and though the laborers in it be few, yet the rewards to each will be the richer. Without your canals and without extensive manufactories, your territory could only sustain about eight

millions of inhabitants, yet with them, **TWELVE MILLIONS**, of happy human beings, may one day dwell within your limits."

Such is the voice of an unborn posterity, addressed to us, and our statesmen have re-echoed back the sound—

"With such prospects and with such inducements to exertion, we are obeying your monitory voice, and we are laying, we have already laid on durable bases, foundations of comfort, of prosperity, of happiness, of wealth, and of great political and moral power."

What citizen of Ohio does not feel proud of his own State, and elevate his views, as he looks through the vista of futurity towards the happy abode of his posterity? Unborn millions shall bless the memory of those who have directed their exertions towards effecting the prosperity and happiness of those who are to succeed us, and one day occupy the several stations now filled by us.

What a rich harvest of fame awaits the early authors of Ohio? The scholar and the man of science may proceed with alacrity in their peaceful, useful career, as they trim their midnight lamps; because millions on millions shall yet read their writings with filial reverence and affection, fully appreciating the difficulties, their authors had to encounter, and the obstacles which they had to surmount, without learned men to converse with, or libraries to consult. The antiquary may examine our works of antiquity, he may knock at the tombs of the mighty dead, reposing in our mounds, but no response shall be given to his questions, and no poet's song, no labors of the statuary, of the painter, or of the printer, shall tell him who were the authors of our antiquities. All our antiquary can do, is to examine with care, and describe with fidelity, these venerable "fragments of history." This has been done by Ohio. The man of science too, may every where read the great book of nature, written by the finger of God, and every where, presenting its opened, expanded volume, to his curious and enquiring eye.

Let us each one, and all, elevate our thoughts, our words and actions, and thus render ourselves worthy of the prosperity, happiness, moral grandeur and true glory, which an all-wise, all-beneficent Providence, appears to have laid up in store for us, and for our descendants. Our devotion to the principles of genuine liberty—our industry, enterprise and natural and moral energy—our freedom from faction, our union and harmony—our freedom from crimes—our intelligence and our observance of all the social duties—the churches we have built, the schools we have founded, all, all have already rendered us respectable. A proper attention to our schools of every grade, and a diffusion of every species of useful knowledge—the completion of our canals—the construction of good roads and the encouragement of domestic manufactures, will render us **GREAT**. There is all that is grand, all that is sublime, all that is animating in the prospect before us. Awake, awake, every slumbering energy of Ohio and let

“The neighing steed, and the shrill trump,

“The spirit-stirring drum, the ear-piercing fife,

“The eagle banner and all quality,

“Pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious exultation,”

Be prepared for celebrating the final completion of the grand works, now in successful and rapid progress in this State. While the Erie rolls its waves, while the Ohio and the Mississippi pour their floods, these works shall remain, **MONUMENTS** of the patriotism, of the enterprize, of the energy and of the wisdom of the founders of this great and growing community.

Let us each one, and all, strive for thoughts, for words,
and actions, and the reader ourselves worthy of the prophe-
cy, happiness, moral grandeur and true glory, which an all-
wise, all-benignant Providence appears to have laid out in
store for us, and for our descendants. Let us strive to the
principles of general liberty—our industry, enterprise, and
talents and moral energy—our freedom from faction, our union
and harmony—our freedom from crimes—our intelligence
and our exertions for all the social evils—the churches we
have built, the schools we have founded, all that we have
done, rendered us responsible. A proper attention to our schools
of every grade, and a diffusion of every species of useful
knowledge—the cultivation of our canals—the construction
of roads and the encouragement of domestic manufac-

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"The rising steam, and the still damp,
"The split-living beam, the curving life,
"The eagle banner and all things,
"Proud, pomp and circumstance of glorious exhibition,"
In prepared for celebrating the final completion of the
great work, now in successful and rapid progress in this
State. While the Erie tolls its waves, while the Ohio and
the Mississippi pour their floods, these works shall witness
the energies of the patriotism, of the enterprise, of the energy
and of the wisdom of the founders of this great and growing
community.

